

In order to hold FPI accountable, I have introduced H.R. 4671, the Small Business Protection Act. It is our responsibility to supply our troops with the highest quality, American-made gear available. FPI does not deliver on that promise, and I request the support of my colleagues in this endeavor.

ZIKA IS A GROWING PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

(Mr. DEUTCH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, when we left Washington 7 weeks ago, there were 311 Zika cases in Florida, and no local infections. Now there are over 600 cases, including 56 local infections, and the number of cases in pregnant women has doubled.

Rather than meeting the serious public health crisis with serious policy, Republican leadership is playing a dangerous game by blocking Zika funding to make a political statement about Planned Parenthood and abortion.

We get it. You oppose women exercising their constitutionally protected rights. You would like to live in a world where women don't have access to safe and legal abortion. You want to live in a world where *Roe v. Wade* is not the law of the land and where women do not have access to contraception. Enough.

In the real world, Zika is spread by mosquitoes and Zika spreads through sex. Safe sex means fewer infections, and Planned Parenthood will help in this fight.

It is time to protect American families in the real world, where the Constitution protects women's health care rights, and where we are facing a public health crisis from the Zika virus.

Mr. Speaker, I urge Republican leaders to listen to anxious Floridians, Democrats and Republicans alike, who want Congress to act for them and not for attempted political gain.

100 YEARS OF SUPPORT FOR MINNESOTA FARMERS

(Mr. EMMER of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Anoka County Farm Bureau. As a supporter of agriculture in Minnesota's Sixth District, the Anoka County Farm Bureau does an excellent job promoting the interests of Minnesota's farmers and their products and produce.

For many farmers in Minnesota, farming is not just a job; it is a way of life often passed from one generation to the next. They work 7 days a week, from dusk till dawn, to ensure that our groceries are stocked and that Minnesotans are fed quality food. It is not an easy job, but it is a vital one.

As the backbone of Minnesota's economy, our farmers deserve as much help

as possible. Without the constant support of the Anoka County Farm Bureau, our district and our State would not be where it is today. That is why I not only want to congratulate the Anoka County Farm Bureau on this very special anniversary, but I want to thank them for supporting Minnesota farmers for the past century, and we look forward to a long future.

ZIKA VIRUS IS PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

(Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss the Zika virus, which has now become a serious public health emergency. Officials from the Department of Health and Human Services have spent August reiterating the dire need for funding to protect the American public from Zika and its potential harm.

While the Centers for Disease Control worked furiously to control and research the mosquitoes that carry this virus, and the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases labors over finding a vaccine for the virus, Congress has stalled over funding the package.

You have heard the cry from Democrats and Republicans about how serious this is. In the United States, including territories, we currently have 16,832 active Zika virus cases. In south Florida, we now have cases of local transmission that could have been prevented with better vector control and preparedness.

We must give our health professionals the tools they need to fight the spread of this virus. Today I ask that we in Congress do our jobs, please.

COMMEMORATING FRANCIS BELLAMY

(Mr. COLLINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COLLINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Francis Bellamy, one of the most influential individuals from Mount Morris, New York. Francis Bellamy is the author of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Today marks the 124th anniversary of the Pledge of Allegiance, which was first published in a magazine called *The Youth's Companion*, on September 8, 1892.

The Pledge was originally written as part of a campaign to put American flags in every school in the United States. In its original form, it read: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1923, the words "the Flag of the United States of America" were added.

In 1954, Congress added the words "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we say today.

Bellamy's words are recited millions of times every day and are ingrained in our society as an expression of national pride and patriotism.

HURRICANE HERMINE AND THE NORTH FLORIDA WAY

(Ms. GRAHAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, more than 250,000 people were without power. Ten-foot storm surges destroyed homes. Lives were lost. This is what my hometown and north Florida has experienced in the past week as a result of Hermine, the first hurricane to strike Florida in 11 years.

It was one of the worst storms ever to hit north Florida, but throughout all the devastation and destruction, we also witnessed community, kindness, and love, or what I like to call the north Florida way.

Organizations like the Red Cross and Salvation Army sheltered and fed those in need. Churches opened their doors to those suffering, and neighbors took in neighbors to help give them respite and relief from the heat.

Mr. Speaker, it will take weeks and months for us to recover from this storm, but today I want to recognize and thank all organizations, volunteers, workers, and people who have helped us all in our time of need. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. We are truly grateful.

HURRICANE HERMINE

(Mr. BILIRAKIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, this past week, the Tampa Bay Area was impacted by the flooding as a result of Hurricane Hermine. I personally visited the flooded areas in my district throughout the weekend, and I saw families and properties that were devastated. Some of the worst-hit areas were along the Anclote River Basin.

Unfortunately, despite infrastructure improvements throughout the county, this area has been repeatedly impacted by flooding. One potential solution is to dredge the Anclote River to help improve flood water egress through the basin. This will help provide residents with long-term relief.

I have reached out to the Army Corps of Engineers to ask that the agency help craft a permanent, workable solution. The safety of our community is at stake, and I will not rest until we get this done.

ZIKA IS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

(Mr. BERA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, we have got a public health crisis on our hands. We